# **Appendix B** Correspondence

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Proposed Interstate 5 HOV Extension Project, Cities of San Clemente, Dana Point, and San Juan Capistrano Orange County, California

Date LSA Requested Sacred Lands File Search: November 17, 2009

Date Native American Heritage Commission Replied: December 1, 2009

Results of Sacred Lands File Search: Indicated the presence of Native American cultural resources within 0.5 mi of the APE and recommended LSA contact the groups/individuals listed below.

Groups Contacted	Date LSA Letter to Tribes	Date Tribal Response Received	Date and Results Follow-up Telephone Calls, and/or Emails
Juaneño Band of Míssion Indians Acjachemen Natíon David Belardes, Chairperson Juaneño	12-07-09	01-05-10 (via Joyce Perry): Ms. Perry requested that an archaeologist and Native American monitor be present during all ground disturbance. She also requested that a meeting be arranged early in the year to discuss sites they may know about. 05-18-10: The requested meeting was held with Mr. Belardes. After viewing the project Area of Potential Effects (APE) maps with known cultural resources plotted on them, Mr. Belardes concluded that the APE was completely disturbed and any archaeological site remnants would likely be in a redepositied context. He retracted the monitoring recommendation but requested that the Tribe be notified immediately of any discoveries.	Not applicable.
Juaneño Band of Mission Indians Anita Espinoza Juaneño	12-07-09	No response received.	01-21-10: There was no answer. 02-12-10: Ms. Espinoza responded that the area is very sensitive and recommends monitoring by an archaeologist. She requests that she be notified of any discoveries.
Juaneño Band of Mission Indians Alfred Cruz Juaneño	12-07-09	No response received.	01-21-10: Left voice mail. 01-22-10: Mr. Cruz responded that he knows of a lot of sites in that area and it is very sensitive. He recommends monitoring by a Native American and an archaeologist and he can provide monitoring.
United Coalition to Protect Panhe (UCPP) Rebecca Robles Juaneño	12-07-09	No response received.	01-21-10: Ms. Robles requested that an email be sent and she would respond to that. Please see attached email. To date, no response has been received.
Juaneño Band of Mission Indians Adolph "Bud" Sepulveda, Vice Chairperson Juaneño	12-07-09	No response received.	01-21-10: A detailed voicemail was left for Mr. Sepulveda. 02-12-10: A detailed voicemail was left for Mr. Sepulveda.

Juaneño Band of Mission Indians Acjachemen	12-07-09	01-05-10: Ms. Perry requested that an archaeologist	Not applicable.	
Nation		and Native American monitor be present during all	4	
Јоусе Репу	-	ground disturbance. She also requested that a meeting		
Juaneño		be arranged early in the year to discuss sites they may		
		know about.		
		05-18-10: The requested meeting was held with Mr.		
		Belardes. After viewing the project Area of Potential		
		Effects (APE) maps with known cultural resources		
		plotted on them, Mr. Belardes concluded that the APE	******	
		was completely disturbed and any archaeological site		
		remnants would likely be in a redepositied context.		
		He retracted the monitoring recommendation but		-
		requested that the Tribe be notified immediately of		
		any discoveries.		
Juaneño Band of Mission Indians	12-07-09	No response received,	01-21-10: A detailed voicemail was left for Ms.	
Sonia Johnston, Chairperson		-	Johnston.	
Juaneño			02-12-10: A detailed voicemail was left for Ms.	
			Johnston.	



LSA ASSOCIATES, INC. 20 EXECUTIVE PARK, SUITE 200 IRVINE. GALIFORNIA 92614

949.553.0666 TEL 949.553.8076 FAX BERKELEY CARLSBAD FORT COLLINS

FRESNO
PALM SPRINGS
POINT RICHMOND

RIVERSIDE ROCKLIN SAN LUIS OBISPO SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO

November 17, 2009

Dave Singleton
Native American Heritage Commission
915 Capitol Mall, Room 364
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject:

Sacred Lands File Search for the Proposed I-5 HOV Extension Project, Orange County,

California

Dear Mr. Singleton:

Attached please find a portion of the Dana Point, California United States Geological Survey (USGS) 7.5-minute topographic quadrangle map. Plotted on the map is the location of the proposed I-5 HOV Extension Project, located in Orange County, California. Specifically, the project is situated in:

Sections 19, 28, 29, 30, 32, and 33, Township 8 South, Range 7 West; and

Sections 12, 13, and unsectioned portions, Township 8 South, Range 8 West.

There will be ground disturbance associated with this project. LSA is requesting a search of the Sacred Lands File for this project area; please notify LSA of any Traditional Cultural Properties (TCPs) and/or Native American cultural resources or sacred areas that may be impacted.

I will anticipate a response within 10 working days from your receipt of this request. Thank you very much for your assistance. If you have any questions or comments, please contact me at (949) 553-0666, or e-mail me at terri.fulton@lsa-assoc.com.

Best Regards,

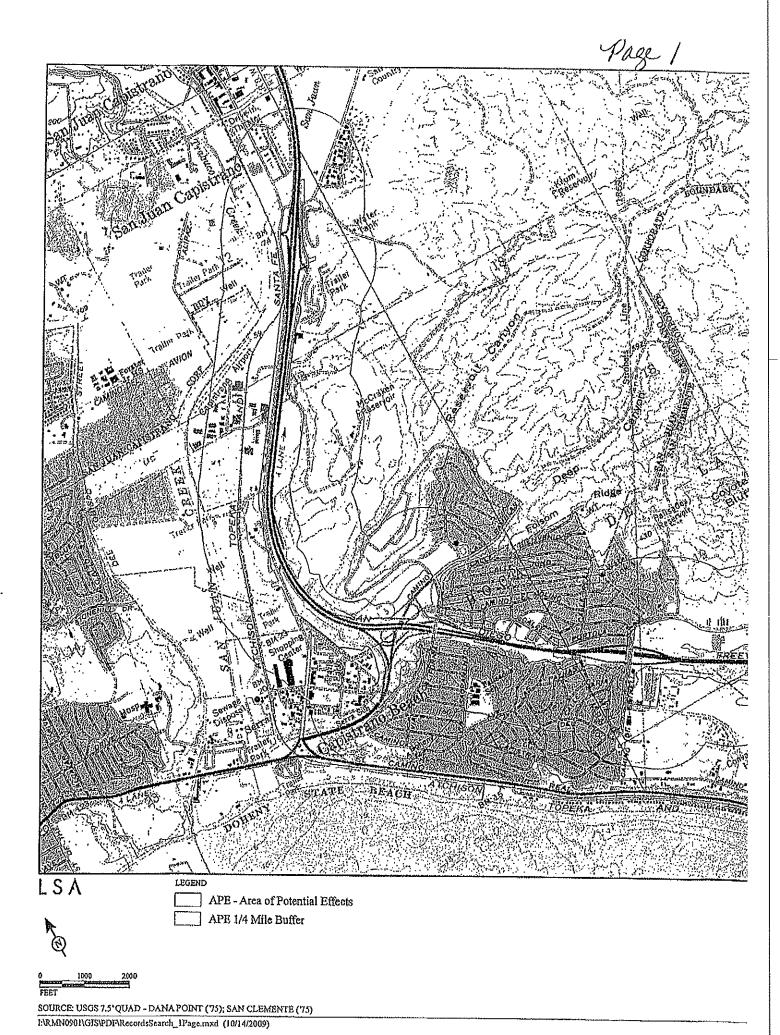
LSA ASSOCIATES, INC.

Terri Fulton

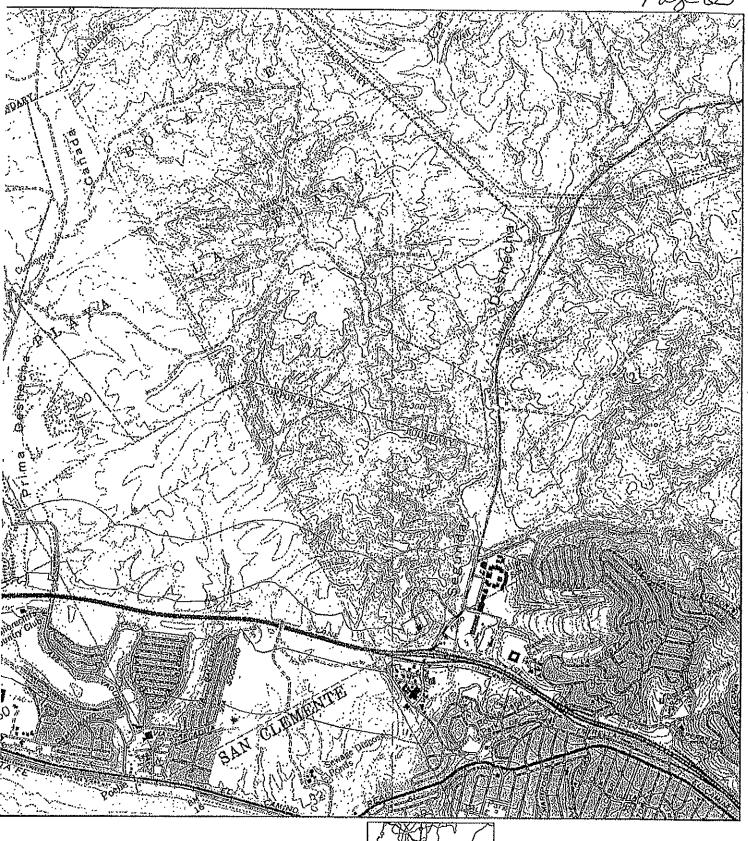
Archaeologist/Senior Cultural Resources Manager

Native American Consultation

Attachments: Portions of USGS maps



Page 2



1-5 HOV Extension Records Scarch Map EA# OF9600 TRANSMISSION VERIFICATION REPORT

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STATE OF CALIFORNIA

<u> Amaid Schwarzennagor, Governor</u>

#### NATIVE AMERICAN HERITAGE COMMISSION

915 CAPITOL MALL, ROON 384 SACRAMENTO, CA 95814 (916) 659-6251 Fax (916) 657-5390 Web 918 www.naha.ca.gov da\_mah@pocooli.net



December 1, 2009

Ms. Terri Fulton, Archaeologist/Senior Cultural Resources Manager

# LSA ASSOCIATES, INC.

20 Executive Park, Suite 200 Irvine, CA 92614

Sent by FAX to 949-653-8076 No. of Pages: 3

Re: Request for a Secred Lands File Search and Native American Contacts List for a Proposed Interstate 5 (I-5) HOV Extension Project.; located in the San Juan Capistrano and San Clemente areas of Orange County, California

Dear Ms. Fulton:

The Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC), the State of California 'Trustee Agency' for the protection and preservation of Native American cultural resources (c.f. CA Public Resources Code §21070; also c.f. Environmental Protection Information Center v. Johnson (1985) 170 Cal App. 3th 604), was able to perform a record search of its Sacred Lands File (SLF) for the affected project area (APE) requested. The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA; CA Public Resources Code Section 21000 – 21177)) requires that any project that causes a substantial adverse change in the significance of an historical resource, that includes archaeological resources, is a 'significant effect' requiring the preparation of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) per the California Code of Regulations §15064.5(b)(c)(f) CEQA guidelines). Section 15382 of the 2007 CEQA Guidelines defines a significant impact on the environment as "a substantial, or potentially substantial, adverse change in any of physical conditions within an area affected by the proposed project, including …objects of historic or aesthetic significance." The NAHC SLF search did indicate the presence of Native American cultural resources within one-half - mile radius of Sections 12 and 13 of Township 8 South and Range 8 West, but not in Township 8 South and Range 7 West of the proposed project (APE).

This letter includes state and federal statutes relating to Native American historic properties of religious and cultural significance to American Indian tribes and Individuals as 'consulting parties' under both state and federal law.

Early consultation with Native American tribes in your area is the best way to avoid unanticipated discoveries once a project is underway. Enclosed are the names of the nearest tribes and interested Native American individuals that the NAHC recommends as 'consulting parties,' for this purpose, that may have knowledge of the religious and cultural significance of the historic properties in the project area (e.g. APE). We recommend that you contact persons on the attached list of Native American contacts. Furthermore we suggest that you contact the California Historic Resources Information System (CHRIS) at the Office of Historic Preservation Coordinator's office (at (916) 653-7278, for referral to the nearest Information Center of which there are 10.

Consultation with tribes and interested Native American consulting parties, on the NAHC list ,should be conducted in compliance with the requirements of federal NEPA (42 U.S.C. 4321-43351) and Section 106 and 4(f) of federal NHPA (16 U.S.C. 470 [f)]et seq), 38 CFR Part 800.3, and NAGPRA (25 U.S.C. 3001-3013), as appropriate.

Lead agencies should consider a<u>voidance</u>, as defined in Section 15370 of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) when significant cultural resources could be affected by a project. Also, Public Resources Code Section 5097.98 and Health & Safety Code Section 7050.6 provide for provisions for accidentally discovered archeological resources during construction and mandate the processes to be followed in the event of an accidental discovery of any human remains in a project location other than a 'dedicated cemetery. Discussion of these should be included in your environmental documents, as appropriate.

The response to this search for Native American cultural resources is conducted in the NAHC Sacred Lands Inventory, established by the California Legislature (CA Public Resources Code §5097.94(a) and is exempt from the CA Public Records Act (c.f. California Government Code §6254.10) although Native Americans on the attached contact list may wish to reveal the nature of identified cultural resources/historic properties. Confidentiality of "historic properties of religious and cultural significance' may also be protected the under Section 304 of the NHPA or at the Secretary of the Interior' discretion if not eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. The Secretary may also be advised by the federal Indian Religious Freedom Act (cf. 42 U.S.C., 1996) in issuing a decision on whether or not to disclose items of religious and/or cultural significance identified in or near the APE and possibly threatened by proposed project activity.

If you have any questions about this response to your request, please do not hesitate to contact me at (916)/653-6257.

Sincerely,

Ďávě Singleton Program Analyst

Attachment: Native American Contacts List (NOTE: we further recommend that other forms of 'proof of mailing or proof of contact be utilized instead of 'Return Receipt Requested' Certified or Registered Mail.) Further, we suggest a follow-up telephone call to the contacts if the replies are not received or need clarification.

# Native American Contact Orange County December 1, 2009

Juaneno Band of Mission Indians Adjachemen Nation David Belardes, Chairperson 32161 Avenida Los Amigos Juaneno san Juan Capistrano CA 92675 DavidBelardes@hotmail.com (949) 293-8522 (949) 493-4933 - Home Juaneno Band of Mission Indians Anita Espinoza 1740 Concerto Drive Juaneno Anaheim , CA 92807 (714) 779-8832

Juaneno Band of Mission Indians
Alfred Cruz, Culural Resources Coordinator
P.O. Box 25628 Juaneno
Santa Ana , CA 92799
alfredgcruz@sbcglobal.net
714-998-0721
714-998-0721 - FAX
714-321-1944 - cell

United Coalition to Protect Panhe (UCPP)
Rebecca Robles
119 Avenida San Fernando Juaneno
San Clemente CA 92672
(949) 573-3138

Juaneno Band of Mission Indians
Adolph 'Bud' Sepulveda, Vice Chairperson
P.O. Box 25828 Juaneno
Santa Ana CA 92799
bssepul@yahoo.net
714-838-3270
714-914-1812 - CELL
bsepul@yahoo.net

Juanano Band of Mission Indians Adjachemen Nation Joyce Perry 4955 Paseo Segovia Juaneno Irvine , CA 92612 949-293-8522

Juaneño Band of Mission Indians Sonia Johnston, Tribal Chairperson P.O. Box 25628 Juaneno Santa Ana , CA 92799 sonia.johnston@sbcglobal. (714) 323-8312

This list is current only as of the date of this document.

Distribution of this list does not relieve any person of statutory responsibility as defined in Section 7050.5 of the Health and Safety Code, Section 5097.94 of the Public Resources Code and Section 5097.98 of the Public Resources Code.

This list is only applicable for contacting local Native Americans with regard to cultural resources for the proposed interstate 5 HOV Extension Project; located in the San Juan Capistrano and San Clemente areas of southern Orange County, California for which a Sacred Lands File search and Native American Contacts list were requested.



LSA ASSOCIATES, INC. 20 EXECUTIVE PARK, SUITE 200 IRVINE, CALIFORNIA 92614

949.553.0666 TEL 949.563.8076 FAX BERKELEY CARLSBAD

FRESNO PALM SPRINGS FORT GOLLINS POINT RICHMOND

RIVERSIDE ROCKLIN SAN LUIS OBISPO SOUTH SAN FRANCISCO

December 7, 2009

Juaneno Band of Mission Indians Alfred Cruz Cultural Resources Coordinator P.O. Box 25628 Santa Ana, CA 92799

Subject:

Native American Consultation for the Proposed I-5 HOV Lane Extension Project,

Cities of Dana Point, San Clemente, and San Juan Capistrano, Orange County,

California

Dear Mr. Cruz:

The Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA), in cooperation with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), the City of Dana Point, the City of San Clemente, and the City of San Juan Capistrano, is proposing to widen Interstate 5 (I-5) between Avenida Pico and San Juan Creek Road. The project objectives are to provide continuity of the I-5 mainline high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane network within the project limits; maximize overall performance within the project limits by minimizing weaving conflicts at the termini of the HOV lanes and maintaining travel speeds for HOV lane users; provide intermittent auxiliary lanes, where needed, to relieve congestion at diverge and merge locations; minimize right-of-way acquisition; relieve congestion within interchange areas, on- and off-ramps, and local intersections; and reduce congestion on I-5 within the project limits. The project limits on I-5 extend from 0.1 mile (mi) south of the Avenida Pico Undercrossing (UC) (Post Mile [PM] 3.3) to 0.1 mi south of the San Juan Creek Road UC (PM 8.7). The proposed project will add one HOV lane in each direction on I-5 throughout the project limits, reestablish existing auxiliary lanes and construct new auxiliary lanes, and improve several existing on- and off-ramps. A map of the project area is attached.

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) requires that federal undertakings such as this consider the effect they may have on historic properties. These include properties of traditional religious and cultural significance to Indian tribes. Government-to-government relationships, as required by federal law, include the identification of an individual designated by an Indian Tribe for the purposes of consultation. If you are not the designated representative, please forward this information to the person who is responsible. Additionally, for the purposes of future consultation, please inform me who will handle consultation for your tribe.

To determine whether any historic properties may be affected by the project, LSA has conducted a records search at the South Central Coastal Information Center located at California State University. Fullerton. The results of the records search indicate there are 5 prehistoric archaeological sites within the project area, and 13 prehistoric archaeological sites within a 0.25 mi radius of the project area.

LSA also requested that a Sacred Lands File Search (SLF) be conducted by the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC). The results of the SLF did indicate the presence of Native American cultural resources within a 0.5 mi radius of portions of the project area. The NAHC also provided your contact information as someone who may have information about cultural resources that could be impacted by the project.

If you know of any cultural resources that may be of religious and/or cultural significance to your community, or if you would like more information, please do not hesitate to contact me at the above telephone number or address, or by e-mail at terri.fulton@lsa-assoc.com. If I do not receive a response from you, I will contact you by telephone to discuss any comments or concerns you may have. Thank you for your time and involvement in this process.

Respectfully,

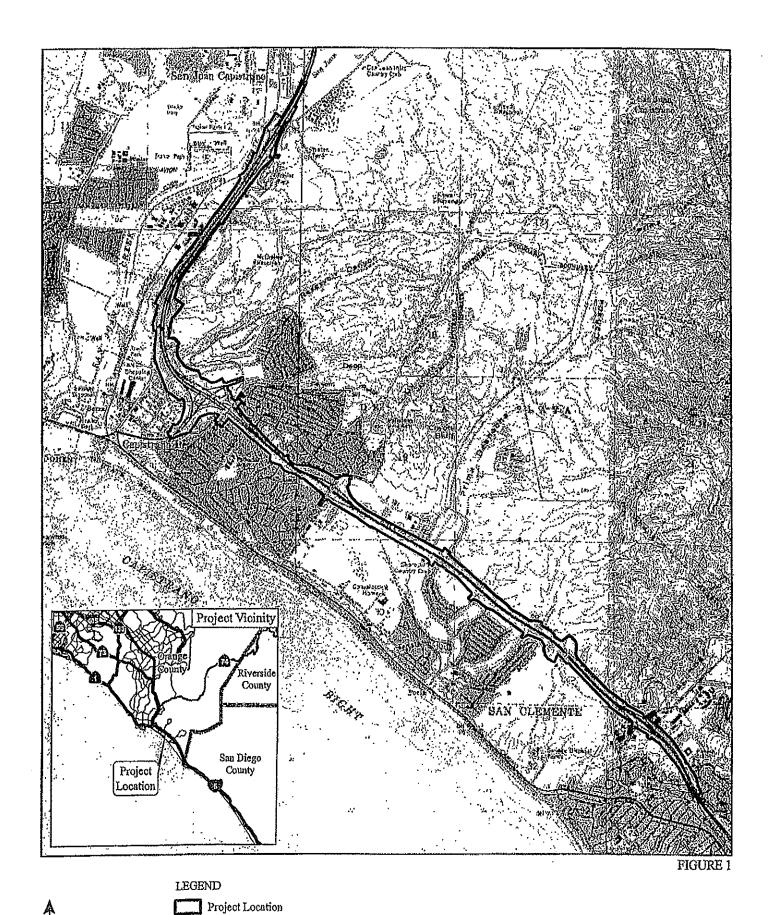
LSA ASSOCIATES, INC.

Terri Fulton

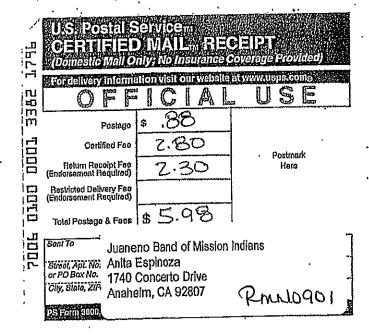
Archaeologist/Senior Cultural Resources Manager

Native American Consultation

Attachment: USGS Maps



I-5 HOV Extension
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Juaneno Band of Mission Indians Acjachemen

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Stati Apr A David Belardes

or PO Box M Chairperson

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Juaneno Band of Mission Indians Anita Espinoza 1740 Concerto Drive Anaheim, CA 92807 RMN 090	3. Service Type  Contilled Mail
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### Terri Fulton

From:

Terri Fulton

Sent:

Thursday, January 21, 2010 2:14 PM

To:

rebrobles1@gmail.com

Co:

Terri Fulton

Subject:

I-5 HOV Extension Project

Attachments: Figure1.pdf

#### Hi Rebecca,

Here is the text of the letter we just spoke about (pasted below my signature). A map of the project area is also attached. Please let me know if you have any information about cultural resources that could be impacted by this project. Thanks for your help.

#### Best.

Terri Fulton Archaeologist/Senior Cultural Resources Manager Native American Consultation

LSA Associates, Inc. 20 Executive Park, Suite 200 Irvine, CA 92614-4731 Phone (949) 553-0666 Fax (949) 553-8076 Wireless (949) 337-5454

December 7, 2009

United Coalition to Protect Panhe (UCPP) Rebecca Robles 119 Avenida San Fernando San Clemente, CA 92672

Subject:

Native American Consultation for the Proposed I-5 HOV Lane Extension Project, Cities of

Dana Point, San Clemente, and San Juan Capistrano, Orange County, California

# Dear Ms. Robles:

The Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA), in cooperation with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), the City of Dana Point, the City of San Clemente, and the City of San Juan Capistrano, is proposing to widen Interstate 5 (I-5) between Avenida Pico and San Juan Creek Road. The project objectives are to provide continuity of the I-5 mainline high-occupancy vehicle (HOV) lane network within the project limits; maximize overall performance within the project limits by minimizing weaving conflicts at the termini of the HOV lanes and maintaining travel speeds for HOV lane users; provide intermittent auxiliary lanes, where needed, to relieve congestion at diverge and merge locations; minimize right-of-way acquisition; relieve congestion within interchange areas, on- and off-ramps, and local intersections; and reduce congestion on I-5 within the project limits. The project limits on I-5 extend from 0.1 mile (mi) south of the Avenida Pico Undercrossing (UC) (Post Mile [PM] 3.3) to 0.1 mi south of the San Juan Creek Road UC (PM 8.7). The proposed project will add one HOV lane in each direction on I-5 throughout the project limits, reestablish existing auxiliary lanes and construct new auxiliary lanes, and improve several existing on- and off-ramps. A map of the project area is attached.

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include the identification of an individual designated by an Indian Tribe for the purposes of consultation. If you are not the designated representative, please forward this information to the person who is responsible. Additionally, for the purposes of future consultation, please inform me who will handle consultation for your tribe.

To determine whether any historic properties may be affected by the project, LSA has conducted a records search at the South Central Coastal Information Center located at California State University, Fullerton. The results of the records search indicate there are 5 prehistoric archaeological sites within the project area, and 13 prehistoric archaeological sites within a 0.25 mi radius of the project area.

LSA also requested that a Sacred Lands File Search (SLF) be conducted by the Native American Heritage Commission (NAHC). The results of the SLF did indicate the presence of Native American cultural resources within a 0.5 mi radius of portions of the project area. The NAHC also provided your contact information as someone who may have information about cultural resources that could be impacted by the project.

If you know of any cultural resources that may be of religious and/or cultural significance to your community, or if you would like more information, please do not hesitate to contact me at the above telephone number or address, or by e-mail at terri.fulton@lsa-assoc.com. If I do not receive a response from you, I will contact you by telephone to discuss any comments or concerns you may have. Thank you for your time and involvement in this process.

Respectfully,

LSA ASSOCIATES, INC.

Terri Fulton Archaeologist/Senior Cultural Resources Manager Native American Consultation

Attachment: USGS Maps



[HPSR form: 08-20-07]

# South Central Coastal Information Center

California State University, Fullerton Department of Anthropology MH-426 800 North State College Boulevard Fullerton, CA 92834-6846 657.278.5395 / FAX 657.278.5542

anthro.fullerton.edu/sccic.html - <u>sccic@fullerton.edu</u>

California Historical Resources Information System

Orange, Los Angeles, and Ventura Counties

October 21, 2009

SCCIC #9926.6845

Ms. Terri Fulton LSA Associates, Inc. 20 Executive Park, Suite 200 Irvine, CA 92614 949.553.0666 LSA LSAASSOCIATES. INC

mmomu .ma

RECEIVED IRVINE

RE: Records Search for I-5 HOV Extension Project, LSA Job Number RMN0901

Dear Ms. Fulton,

As per your request received on October 19, 2009, an expedited records search was conducted for the above referenced project. The search includes a review of all recorded archaeological sites within a ¼-mile radius of the project site as well as a review of cultural resource reports on file. In addition, the California Points of Historical Interest (PHI), the California Historical Landmarks (CHL), the California Register of Historical Resources (CR), the National Register of Historic Places (NR), and the California State Historic Resources Inventory (HRI) listings were reviewed for the above referenced project. The following is a discussion of the findings.

# Dana Point and San Clemente, CA. USGS 7.5' Quadrangles

#### ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES:

Thirteen archaeological sites (30000021, 30-000188, 30-000549, 30-000599, 30-000835\*, 30-000836\*, 30-000837\*, 30-000838\*, 30-000903, 30-000924, 30-001107\*, 30-001258, and 30-001579) have been identified within a ¼-mile radius of the project site. Five archaeological sites are located within the project site. One site is listed on the Archaeological Determination of Eligibility (DOE) list. Four isolates (30-100114\*, 30-100115\*, 30-100159, and 30-100160) have been identified within a ¼-mile radius of the project site. One isolate is located within the project site. (\* = Located within the project site)

# **HISTORIC RESOURCES:**

Four additional cultural resources (30-176486\*, 30-176663\*, 30-176664\*, and 30-176700) have been identified within a  $\frac{1}{4}$ -mile radius of the project site. Three cultural resources are located within the project site.

(\* = Located within the project site)

Copies of our historic maps – San Juan Capistrano (1942) 15' USGS - are enclosed for your review.

The California Point of Historical Interest of the Office of Historic Preservation, Department of Parks and Recreation, lists no properties within a ¼-mile radius of the project site.

The California Historical Landmarks of the Office of Historic Preservation, Department of Parks and Recreation, lists no properties within a ¼-mile radius of the project site.

The California Register of Historic Places lists one property within a ¼-mile radius of the project site (see enclosed HRI list for property marked with a +). This property is determined to have a National Register of Historic Places Status of 1 or 2, a California Historical Landmark numbering 770 and higher, or a Point of Historical Interest listed after 1/1/1998.

The National Register of Historic Places lists one property within a ¼-mile radius of the project site (see enclosed HRI list for property marked with an \*).

The California Historic Resources Inventory lists 45 properties that have been evaluated for historical significance within a ¼-mile radius of the project site (see enclosed list).

# PREVIOUS CULTURAL RESOURCES INVESTIGATIONS:

Eighty-two studies (OR102, OR115, OR120, OR186, OR239, OR248\*, OR279, OR288, OR329, OR378, OR467\*, OR525, OR535\*, OR536\*, OR577\*, OR610, OR625, OR636\*, OR670, OR674, OR685\*, OR833, OR892, OR912\*, OR915, OR941\*, OR951, OR958\*, OR979\*, OR995\*, OR1090\*, OR1113, OR1165, OR1178\*, OR1204\*, OR1215, OR1227, OR1260, OR1261, OR1298, OR1322, OR1336, OR1459\*, OR1506, OR1602\*, OR1603\*, OR1683, OR1684, OR1695, OR1726\*, OR1735\*, OR1819\*, OR1820\*, OR1869, OR1915\*, OR1955\*, OR2011, OR2054\*, OR2055\*, OR2093, OR2215\*, OR2317\*, OR2454, OR2527, OR2566\*, OR2871, OR2873, OR2877\*, OR2921, OR2922\*, OR2923\*, OR3271, OR3295\*, OR3333\*, OR3367, OR3373, OR3390\*, OR3473, OR3495\*, OR3640, OR3689\*, and OR3690) have been conducted within a ¼-mile radius of the project site. Of these, 37 are located within the project site. There are seven additional investigations located on the Dana Point and San Clemente, CA. 7.5' USGS Quadrangles that are potentially within a ¼-mile radius of the project site. These reports are not mapped due to insufficient locational information. (\* = Located within the project site)

Please forward a copy of any resulting reports from this project to the office as soon as possible. Due to the sensitive nature of archaeological site location data, we ask that you **do not include** resource location maps and resource location descriptions in your report if the report is for public distribution. If you have any questions regarding the results presented herein, please contact the office at 657.278.5395 Monday through Thursday 9:00 am to 3:30 pm.

Should you require any additional information for the above referenced project, reference the SCCIC number listed above when making inquiries. Requests made after initial invoicing will result in the preparation of a separate invoice.

Sincerely, SCCIC

Michelle Galaz Lead Staff Researcher

# **Enclosures:**

- Maps 7.5' USGS Quadrangle, 15' USGS Quadrangle 10 pages
- Bibliography 19 pages (X)
- Bibliography of Unmapped Reports 2 pages (X)
- (X) HRI - 7 pages
- (X) ·ADOE list - 1 page
- National Register Status Codes 1 page (X)
- (X)Site Records - (30-000021, 30-000188, 30-000549, 30-000599, 30-000835\*, 30-000836\*, 30-000837\*, 30-000838\*, 30-000903, 30-000924, 30-001107\*, 30-001258, 30-001579, 30-100114\*, 30-100115\*, 30-100159, 30-100160, 30-176486\*, 30-176663\*, 30-176664\*, and 30-176700) - 58 pages
- (X) (X) Confidentiality Form
- Invoice #9926.6845

December 1, 2009

City of San Juan Capistrano
Community Development Department, Planning Department
32400 Paseo Adelanto
San Juan Capistrano, California 92675
Attn: Teri Delcamp, Historic Preservation Manager

Subject:

Historic Consultation for the Interstate 5 High Occupancy Vehicle Lane Extension

Project, Orange County, California (LSA Project No. RMN0901)

### To Whom It May Concern:

The Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA), in cooperation with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), the City of Dana Point, the City of San Clemente, and the City of San Juan Capistrano, is proposing to widen Interstate 5 (I-5) between San Juan Creek Road and Avenida Pico (see attached map). The project objectives are to provide continuity of the I-5 mainline High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) network within the project limits; maximize overall performance within the project limits by minimizing weaving conflicts at the termini of the HOV lanes and maintaining travel speeds for HOV lane users; provide intermittent auxiliary lanes, where needed, to relieve congestion at diverge and merge locations; minimize right-of-way acquisition; relieve congestion within interchange areas, on- and off-ramps, and local intersections; and reduce congestion on I-5 within the project limits. The project limits on I-5 extend from 0.1 mile (mi) south of the Avenida Pico Undercrossing (UC) (Post Mile [PM] 3.3) to 0.1 mi south of the San Juan Creek Road UC (PM 8.7). The proposed project will add one HOV lane in each direction on I-5 throughout the project limits, reestablish existing auxiliary lanes and construct new auxiliary lanes, and improve several existing on- and off-ramps. Four alternatives, including the No Build Alternative, will be analyzed as part of the Draft Initial Study/Environmental Assessment (IS/EA).

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA) requires that federally regulated undertakings, such as this project, consider the effect they may have on historic properties. Evaluations are currently underway for historic resources. Pursuant to Section 36 CFR Part 800.3(e), LSA is soliciting your comments regarding any cultural resources that, may exist within the project limits (see attached map). We are particularly interested in the Harrison House in San Juan Capistrano, the residential neighborhoods along Via California and Calle Portola in Dana Point, and the Shorecliffs golf course and residential area in San Clemente.

LSA ASSOCIATES, INC.

If you have any comments or would like additional information regarding the project, please contact me by December 16, 2009. I can be reached at the above address and telephone number or by email at Casey. Tibbet@lsa-assoc.com.

Sincerely,

LSA ASSOCIATES, INC.

Cascy Tibbet

Cultural Resources Manager

Attachment: Map

BERKELEY CARLSBAD COLMA FORT COLLINS
INVINE
PALM SPRINGS

Point Richmond Rocklin Sah Luis Obispo

December 1, 2009

San Juan Capistrano Historical Society 31831 Los Rios Street San Juan Capistrano, California 92675

Subject:

Historic Consultation for the Interstate 5 High Occupancy Vehicle Lane Extension

Project, Orange County, California (LSA Project No. RMN0901)

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LSA ASSOCIATES, INC.

If you have any comments or would like additional information regarding the project, please contact me by December 16, 2009. I can be reached at the above address and telephone number or by email at Casey. Tibbet@lsa-assoc.com.

Sincerely,

LSA ASSOCIATES, INC.

Casey Tibbet

Cultural Resources Manager

Attachment: Map

December 1, 2009

San Clemente Historical Society
Post Office Box 283
San Clemente, California 92674
Attn: Raad Ghantous, Preservation Chair

Subject:

Historic Consultation for the Interstate 5 High Occupancy Vehicle Lane Extension

Project, Orange County, California (LSA Project No. RMN0901)

#### To Whom It May Concern:

The Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA), in cooperation with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), the City of Dana Point, the City of San Clemente, and the City of San Juan Capistrano, is proposing to widen Interstate 5 (I-5) between San Juan Creek Road and Avenida Pico (see attached map). The project objectives are to provide continuity of the I-5 mainline High Occupancy Vehicle (FIOV) network within the project limits; maximize overall performance within the project limits by minimizing weaving conflicts at the termini of the HOV lanes and maintaining travel speeds for HOV lane users; provide intermittent auxiliary lanes, where needed, to relieve congestion at diverge and merge locations; minimize right-of-way acquisition; relieve congestion within interchange areas, on- and off-ramps, and local intersections; and reduce congestion on I-5 within the project limits. The project limits on I-5 extend from 0.1 mile (mi) south of the Avenida Pico Undercrossing (UC) (Post Mile [PM] 3.3) to 0.1 mi south of the San Juan Creek Road UC (PM 8.7). The proposed project will add one HOV lane in each direction on I-5 throughout the project limits, reestablish existing auxiliary lanes and construct new auxiliary lanes, and improve several existing on- and off-ramps. Four alternatives, including the No Build Alternative, will be analyzed as part of the Draft Initial Study/Environmental Assessment (IS/EA).

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LSA ASSOCIATES, INC.

If you have any comments or would like additional information regarding the project, please contact me by December 16, 2009. I can be reached at the above address and telephone number or by email at Casey. Tibbet@lsa-assoc.com.

Sincerely,

LSA ASSOCIATES, INC.

Casey Tibbet

Cultural Resources Manager

Attachment: Map

BERKELEY CARLSBAD COLMA FORT COLLINS
INVINE
PALM SPRINGS

FOINT RICHMOND ROCKLIN SAN LUIS OBISPO

December 1, 2009

Dana Point Historical Society Post Office Box 544 Dana Point, California 92629 Attn: Carlos Olvera, President

Subject:

Historic Consultation for the Interstate 5 High Occupancy Vehicle Lane Extension

Project, Orange County, California (LSA Project No. RMN0901)

# To Whom It May Concern:

The Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA), in cooperation with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), the City of Dana Point, the City of San Clemente, and the City of San Juan Capistrano, is proposing to widen Interstate 5 (I-5) between San Juan Creek Road and Avenida Pico (see attached map). The project objectives are to provide continuity of the I-5 mainline High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) network within the project limits; maximize overall performance within the project limits by minimizing weaving conflicts at the termini of the HOV lanes and maintaining travel speeds for HOV lane users; provide intermittent auxiliary lanes, where needed, to relieve congestion at diverge and merge locations; minimize right-of-way acquisition; relieve congestion within interchange areas, on- and off-ramps, and local intersections; and reduce congestion on I-5 within the project limits. The project limits on I-5 extend from 0.1 mile (mi) south of the Avenida Pico Undercrossing (UC) (Post Mile [PM] 3.3) to 0.1 mi south of the San Juan Creek Road UC (PM 8.7). The proposed project will add one HOV lane in each direction on I-5 throughout the project limits, reestablish existing auxiliary lanes and construct new auxiliary lanes, and improve several existing on- and off-ramps. Four alternatives, including the No Build Alternative, will be analyzed as part of the Draft Initial Study/Environmental Assessment (IS/EA).

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LSA ASSOCIATES, INC.

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Sincerely,

LSA ASSOCIATES, INC.

Casey Tibbet

Cultural Resources Manager

Attachment:

Map

BERKELBY CARLSBAD COLMA FORT COLLINS
IRVINE
PALM SPRINGS

POINT RICHMOND ROCKLIN SAN LUIS ORISPO

December 1, 2009

Orange County Historical Society Post Office Box 10984 Santa Ana, California 92711 Attn: Greg Rankin, President

Subject:

Historic Consultation for the Interstate 5 High Occupancy Vehicle Lane Extension

Project, Orange County, California (LSA Project No. RMN0901)

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The Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA), in cooperation with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), the City of Dana Point, the City of San Clemente, and the City of San Juan Capistrano, is proposing to widen Interstate 5 (I-5) between San Juan Creek Road and Avenida Pico (see attached map). The project objectives are to provide continuity of the I-5 mainline High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) network within the project limits; maximize overall performance within the project limits by minimizing weaving conflicts at the termini of the HOV lanes and maintaining travel speeds for HOV lane users; provide intermittent auxiliary lanes, where needed, to relieve congestion at diverge and merge locations; minimize right-of-way acquisition; relieve congestion within interchange areas, on- and off-ramps, and local intersections; and reduce congestion on I-5 within the project limits. The project limits on I-5 extend from 0.1 mile (mi) south of the Avenida Pico Undercrossing (UC) (Post Mile [PM] 3.3) to 0.1 mi south of the San Juan Creek Road UC (PM 8.7). The proposed project will add one HOV lane in each direction on I-5 throughout the project limits, reestablish existing auxiliary lanes and construct new auxiliary lanes, and improve several existing on- and off-ramps. Four alternatives, including the No Build Alternative, will be analyzed as part of the Draft Initial Study/Environmental Assessment (IS/EA).

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Sincerely,

LSA ASSOCIATES, INC.

Casey Tibbet

Cultural Resources Manager

Attachment: . Map

951.781.9310 TEL 951.781.4277 FAX BERKELEY CARLEBAD COLMA FORT COLLINS
IRVINE
PALM SPRINGS

POINT RICHMOND ROCKLIN SAK LUIS OBISPO

December 1, 2009

Orange County Historical Commission 211 West Santa Ana Boulevard Santa Ana, California 92701 Attn: Griselda Castillo

Subject:

Historic Consultation for the Interstate 5 High Occupancy Vehicle Lane Extension

Project, Orange County, California (LSA Project No. RMN0901)

#### To Whom It May Concern:

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Sincerely,

LSA ASSOCIATES, INC.

Casey Tibbel

Cultural Resources Manager

Attachment: Map

2

December 1, 2009

City of San Clemente Community Development Department, Planning Department 910 Calle Negocio, Suite 100 San Clemente, California 92673-6247 Attn: Jennifer Gates, Associate Planner

Subject:

Historic Consultation for the Interstate 5 High Occupancy Vehicle Lane Extension

Project, Orange County, California (LSA Project No. RMN0901)

# To Whom It May Concern:

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LSA ASSOCIATES, INC.

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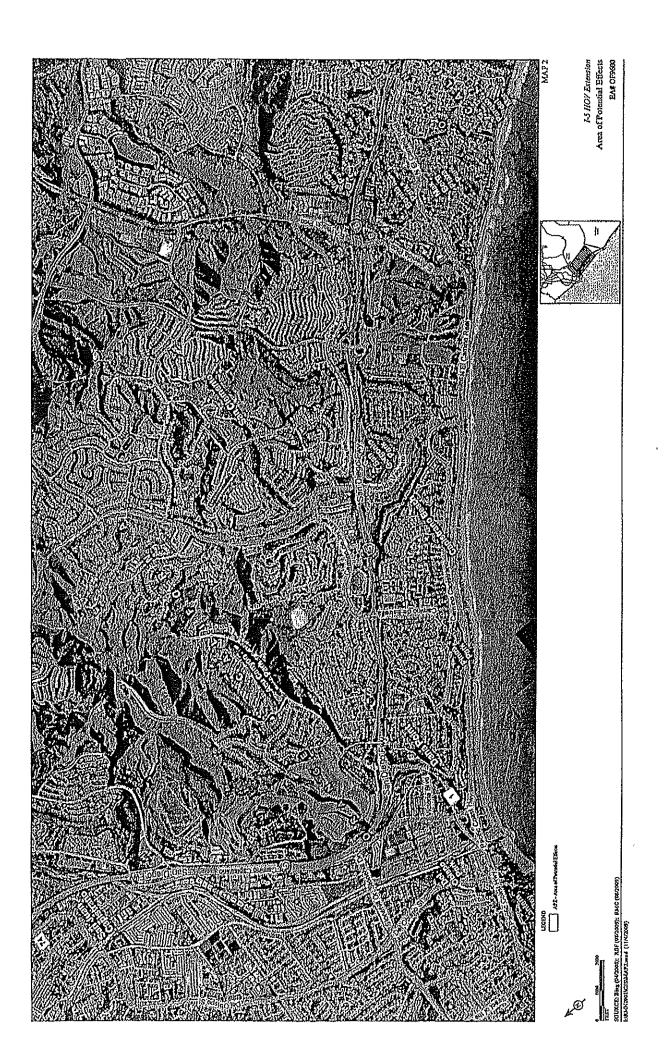
Sincerely,

LSA ASSOCIATES, INC.

Casey Tibbet

Cultural Resources Manager

Attachment: Map



From: EVAN LANGAN [ELANGAN@DanaPoint.org]

Sent: Wednesday, December 16, 2009 2:29 PM

To: Casey Tibbet

Subject: RE: Historic Resources Register

Good Afternoon Mr. Tibbet,

Records indicate "34262 Via Velez" as being listed on the City's (circa 1997) Historic Inventory, and that the property was subsequently added to the Historic Registry (formally recognized as a "local historic resource" by the City at the request of the property owner). No other addresses from your list are cited within the inventory, and so at present, are not eligible for listing on the Registry.

The City has no designated historic districts, and accordingly, no such maps exist.

# **Evan Langan, AICP**

# Associate Planner

City of Dana Point, Planning Division 33282 Golden Lantern Dana Point, CA 92629 949-248-3591

From: Casey Tibbet [mailto:casey.tibbet@lsa-assoc.com]

Sent: Wednesday, December 16, 2009 1:06 PM

To: EVAN LANGAN

Subject: Historic Resources Register

#### Hi Evan.

I am in the process of preparing a cultural resources report related to the I-5 HOV expansion project which runs through a portion of Dana Point. I am hoping that you can tell me whether or not any of the following properties are listed on the City's Historic Resources Register:

34522	Calle Portola
34532	Calle Portola
34542	Calle Portola
26981	Avenida Las Palmas
34575	Calle Portola
34591	Calle Portola
34621	Calle Portola
34283	Via Lopez
34285	Via Lopez
34295	Via Lopez
	34532 34542 26981 34575 34591 34621 34283 34285

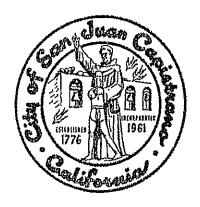
12318201	26601	Via California
12317221	26375	Via Canon
12316239	34301	Via Lopez
12318317	34262	Via Velez

Also, I would like to know if the City has any designated historic districts and if maps of those districts are available.

Thank you very much for your assistance,

Casey Tibbet, M.A. Senior Architectural Historian/Historian

LSA Associates, Inc. 1500 Iowa Avenue, Sulte 200 Riverside, CA 92507 951-781-9310 951-781-4277 (fax) 32400 PASEO ADELANTO SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO, CA 92675 (949) 493-1171 (949) 493-1053 FAX www.sanjuancapistrano.org



MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

SAMALLEVATO LAURA FREESE THOMAS W. HRIBAR MARK NIELSEN DR. LONDRES USO

December 16, 2009

Casey Tibbet LSA Cultural Resources Manager 1500 Iowa Avenue, Suite 200 Riverside. CA 92507

Subject: Historic Consultation for the Interstate 5 HOV Lane Extension Project

Dear Ms. Tibbet:

Thank you for your letter dated December 1, 2009, soliciting comments on the above project. The Area of Potential Effects (APE) does appear to have the possibility of affecting what I believe your letter referred to as the Harrison House. The property is locally designated as the Pablo Pryor Adobe/Hide House and is addressed as 33751 Camino Capistrano (APN 121-254-04). (Another property east on Ortega Highway is the National Register-listed Harrison House so I wanted to be sure we avoid any confusion.)

This property was designated locally a long time ago, and no detailed historic report about the property has ever been completed, and no determination of eligibility for the National Register of Historic places has been formally completed to my knowledge. The above project's historic resources evaluation should assess the property's potential eligibility for the National Register, and if determined eligible, should assess potential adverse impacts that may result from the proposed project.

The Juaneño Band of Mission Indians, Acjachemen Nation, should be consulted with regard to the potential for affecting possible Native American cultural resources.

Should you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me at 949-443-6330 or by Email at tdelcamp@sanjuancapistrano.org. City Hall will be closed for the holidays and a furlough until January 4, 2010.

Sincerely,

Teri Delcamp

Historic Preservation Manager

# OFFICE OF HISTORIC PRESERVATION DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

1725 23<sup>rd</sup> Street, Suite 100 SACRAMENTO, CA 95816-7100 (916) 445-7000 Fax: (916) 445-7053 calshpo@parks.ca.gov www.ohp.parks.ca.gov

November 10, 2010

In Reply Refer To: FHWA101012A

Chris Flynn
Department of Transportation
District 12
3347 Michelson Drive, Suite 100
Irvine, CA 92612-1692

Re: Determination of National Register of Historic Places Eligibility and Subsequent Finding of No Historic Properties Affected for Proposed Widening and Addition of HOV Lanes on I-5 between Avenida Pico and San Juan Creek Road

Dear Mr. Flynn:

Thank you for seeking my consultation regarding the above noted undertaking in accordance with the *Programmatic Agreement* (PA) *Among the Federal Highway Administration, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, the California State Historic Preservation Officer, and the California Department of Transportation Regarding Compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, as it Pertains to the Administration of the Federal-Aid Highway Program in California.*Pursuant to Stipulation VIII of the PA, the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) has determined the Area of Potential Effects (APE) and has completed identification and evaluation of historic properties within the APE. You are requesting my concurrence, pursuant to Stipulation VIII.C.5 of the PA, on your determination of eligibility, for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), of 16 historic properties identified within the APE. Caltrans is also requesting concurrence of the absence of four archaeological sites previously recorded within the APE. In addition to your letter of October 5, 2010, you have submitted the following documents in support of this undertaking:

Historic Property Survey Report District 12, Orange County, I-5, PM 3.0/8.7, EA
 OF9600 (Casey Tibbet, LSA Associates, September 2010)

As documented in the reports noted above, Caltrans has identified archeological sites as being located on Information Center maps within the project APE. Sites CA-ORA-835, -836, 837, and -838 were all originally located in 1957 by Dr. William J. Wallace. This has resulted in likely inaccuracy in GIS plotting of the sites. Caltrans has made a reasonable attempt to relocate these sites within their plotted locations and none could be relocated within the APE. The plotted locations of two of these sites has been completely graded and developed, disturbing any sites if present.

Caltrans has also determined that 16 architectural properties within the APE are not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The 16 properties are: 26601 Via



#### FHWA101012A 11/10/2010

California, 26375 Via Canon, 34283 Via Lopez, 34285 Via Lopez, 34295 Via Lopez, 34301 Via Lopez, 34262 Via Velez, 34522 Calle Portola, 34532 Calle Portola, 34542 Calle Portola, 26981 Avenida Las Palmas, 34575 Calle Portola, 34591 Calle Portola, 34621 Calle Portola, 420 Calle Vista Torito, and 529 Avenida Pico.

The NRHP eligibility determinations that Caltrans is requesting my concurrence on are not eligible for the 16 architectural properties and comments regarding the absence of four archaeological sites within the APE; therefore Caltrans has determined a finding of No Historic Properties Affected is appropriate for this undertaking, the I-5 HOV Extension Project in the Cities of Dana Point, San Clemente, and San Juan Capistrano. Based on my review of your letter and supporting documentation, I have the following comments:

- 1) I concur that CA-ORA-835, -836, -837, and -838 could not be located within the APE and may have been destroyed by development.
- 2) I further concur that the 16 architectural properties mentioned above are not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places.
- 3) Therefore, I concur with your finding of No Historic Properties Affected for the proposed widening of I-5 between Post Miles 3.0 and 8.7 in Orange County.

Be advised that under certain circumstances, such as unanticipated discovery or a change in project description, Caltrans may have additional future responsibilities for this undertaking under 36 CFR Part 800. Thank you for seeking my comments and considering historic properties as part of your project planning. If you require further information, please contact Trevor Pratt or Natalie Lindquist of my staff, at phone 916-445-7017 or 916-445-7014 or email tpratt@parks.ca.gov or nlindquist@parks.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Milford Wayne Donaldson, FAIA

Susan & Stratton for

State Historic Preservation Officer

# APPENDIX B WILDLIFE SPECIES DETECTED

This is a list of the conspicuous aerial insects (i.e., damselflies, dragonflies, and butterflies), reptiles, birds, and mammals observed or otherwise detected by consultant biologists during surveys conducted from October 2009 through January 2010. Presence may be noted if a species is seen or heard, or identified by the presence of tracks, scat, or other signs.

\* Species not native to the study area

# **ANISOPTERA**

#### Aeshnidae

Rhionaeschna multicolor

#### Libellulidae

Sympetrum corruptum Pantala flavescens

# **LEPIDOPTERA**

#### Pieridae

Pieris rapae
 Anthocharis sara

# Lycaenidae

Brephidium exilie

# Nymphalidae

Nymphalis antiopa Vanessa cardui

#### Hesperiidae

Pyrgus albescens/communis

#### **AMPHIBIA**

# Hylidae

Pseudacris hypochondriaca

#### TYPICAL DRAGONFLIES

#### **Darners**

Blue-eyed darner

#### Skimmers

Variegated meadowhawk Wandering glider

#### BUTTERFLIES

# Whites and Sulphurs

Cabbage white Sara orangetip

# Gossamer-Wing Butterflies

Western pygmy-blue

#### **Brush-Footed Butterflies**

Mourning cloak Painted lady

# Skippers

White/common checkered-skipper

#### **AMPHIBIANS**

# Treefrogs and Relatives

Baja California treefrog

# REPTILIA

# Phrynosomatidae

Sceloporus occidentalis

#### AVES

#### Pelecanidae

Pelecanus occidentalis

# Ardeidae

Ardea alba Egretta thula

#### Cathartidae

Cathartes aura

# Accipitridae

Pandion haliaetus Accipiter cooperii Buteo lineatus Buteo jamaicensis

# Falconidae

Falco sparverius

#### Charadriidae

Charadrius vociferus

#### Laridae

Larus occidentalis Larus californicus Larus argentatus

#### Columbidae

\* Columba livia
 Zenaida macroura

#### Cuculidae

Geococcyx californianus

#### Trochilidae

Calypte anna Calypte costae Selasphorus rufus/sasin

# REPTILES

# Phrynosomatid Lizards

Western fence lizard

#### BIRDS

#### **Pelicans**

Brown pelican

# Herons, Bitterns, and Allies

Great egret Snowy egret

# **New World Vultures**

Turkey vulture

# Hawks, Kites, Eagles, and Allies

Osprey Cooper's hawk Red-shouldered hawk Red-tailed hawk

# Caracaras and Falcons

American kestrel

# **Plovers and Lapwings**

Killdeer

# Gulls, Terns, and Skimmers

Western gull California gull Herring gull

# Pigeons and Doves

Rock pigeon Mourning dove

# Cuckoos, Roadrunners, and Anis

Greater roadrunner

#### Hummingbirds

Anna's hummingbird Costa's hummingbird Rufous/Allen's hummingbird Picidae

Picoides nuttallii

Tyrannidae

Sayornis nigricans Sayornis saya Tyrannus vociferans

Vireonidae

Vireo huttoni

Corvidae

Aphelocoma californica Corvus brachyrhynchos

Aegithalidae

Psaltriparus minimus

**Troglodytidae** 

Thryomanes bewickii Troglodytes aedon

Regulidae

Regulus calendula

Sylviidae

Rolioptila caerulea Polioptila californica californica

Turdidae

Sialia mexicana Catharus guttatus

Timaliidae

Chamaea fasciata

Mimidae

Mimus polyglottos Toxostoma redivivum

Sturnidae

\* Sturnus vulgaris

Motacillidae

Anthus rubescens

Woodpeckers and Allies

Nuttall's woodpecker

**Tyrant Flycatchers** 

Black phoebe Say's phoebe Cassin's kingbird

Vireos

Hutton's vireo

Crows and Jays

Western scrub-jay American crow

Long-Tailed Tits and Bushtits

Bushtit

Wrens

Bewick's wren House wren

Kinglets

Ruby-crowned kinglet

Old World Warblers and Gnatcatchers

Blue-gray gnatcatcher Coastal California gnatcatcher

**Thrushes** 

Western bluebird Hermit thrush

**Babblers** 

Wrentit

**Mockingbirds and Thrashers** 

Northern mockingbird California thrasher

**Starlings** 

European starling

Wagtails and Pipits

American pipit

#### Ptilogonatidae

Phainopepla nitens

#### Parulidae

Vermivora celata Dendroica coronata Dendroica townsendi Geothlypis trichas

#### Emberizidae

Pipilo maculatus Pipilo crissalis Melospiza melodia Melospiza lincolnii Zonotrichia leucophrys Zonotrichia atricapilla

# Fringillidae

Carpodacus mexicanus Spinus psaltria

#### Passeridae

Passer domesticus

# MAMMALIA

#### Sciuridae

Spermophilus beecheyi

# Geomyidae

Thomomys bottae

# Cricetidae

Neotoma lepida

#### Leporidae

Sylvilagus audubonii

#### Canidae

Canis latrans

# Mephitidae

Mephitis mephitis

# Silky-flycatchers

Phainopepla

# Wood Warblers

Orange-crowned warbler Yellow-rumped warbler Townsend's warbler Common yellowthroat

#### **Emberizids**

Spotted towhee California towhee Song sparrow Lincoln's sparrow White-crowned sparrow Golden-crowned sparrow

# Fringilline and Cardueline Finches and Allies

House finch

Lesser goldfinch

# **Old World Sparrows**

House sparrow

#### **MAMMALS**

# Squirrels, Chipmunks, and Marmots

California ground squirrel

# **Pocket Gophers**

Botta's pocket gopher

# Hamsters, Voles, Lemmings, and New World Rats and Mice

Desert woodrat

#### Rabbits and Hares

Audubon's cottontail

# Foxes, Wolves, and Allies

Coyote

#### Skunks

Striped skunk

Procyonidae
Procyon lotor

Raccoon and Allies
Raccoon

Cervidae

Odocoileus hemionus

Deer, Elk, and Allies Mule deer

# Taxonomy and nomenclature are based on the following.

Damselflies and dragonflies: Paulson, D. (2009, Dragonflies and Damselflies of the West, Princeton University Press, Princeton, New Jersey).

Butterflies: North American Butterfly Association (2001, NABA checklist and English Names of North American Butterflies, Second Edition, North American Butterfly Association, Morristown, New Jersey; see http://www.naba.org/pubs/checklst.html).

Amphibians and reptiles: Crother, B.I. ed. (2008, Scientific and Standard English Names of Amphibians and Reptiles of North America North of Mexico. *Herpetological Circular* 37) for species taxonomy and nomenclature; Stebbins, R.C. (2003, A Field Guide to Western Reptiles and Amphibians, third edition, Houghton Mifflin, Boston) for sequence and higher order taxonomy.

Birds: American Ornithologists' Union (1998, The A.O.U. Checklist of North American Birds, Seventh Edition, American Ornithologists' Union, Washington D.C.; and supplements; see http://www.aou.org/checklist/north/index.php).

Mammals: Wilson, D.E., and D.M. Reeder, eds. (2005, Mammal Species of the World, 3rd ed., Johns Hopkins University Press, Baltimore, Maryland; see http://vertebrates.si.edu/mammals/msw/).

February 3, 2010

Sandra Marquez United States Fish and Wildlife Service Carlsbad Field Office 6010 Hidden Valley Road, Suite 101 Carlsbad, CA 92011

Lyann Comrack Nongame Wildlife Program California Department of Fish and Game 1812 Ninth Street Sacramento, CA 95811

Subject:

Coastal California Gnatcatcher Winter Survey Results: Interstate-5 High Occupancy

Vehicle (HOV) Lane Extension Project, October 2009–January 2010

Dear Ms. Marquez and Ms. Comrack:

This letter report documents the results of protocol non-breeding season surveys for the coastal California gnatcatcher (Polioptila californica californica) conducted by LSA Associates, Inc. (LSA). Surveys were conducted for the proposed Interstate-5 (I-5) High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) Lane Extension project in the Cities of San Clemente, Dana Point, and San Juan Capistrano, Orange County, California (Figures 1-2 in Appendix A). The coastal California gnatcatcher is a federally listed threatened species.

Up to seven pairs of California gnatcatchers were found in coastal sage scrub (CSS) within the I-5 right-of-way during the surveys (Figures 2A and 2B).

# STUDY AREA

The Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA), in cooperation with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans), proposes road improvements and the extension of HOV lanes on I-5 from 0.1 mile (mi) south of the Avenida Pico Undercrossing (UC) (Post Mile [PM] 3.3) to 0.1 mi south of the San Juan Creek Road UC (PM 8.7). The linear project area begins in the north near San Juan Creek at approximately 33°29'39" N, 117°39'36" W and terminates south of East Avenida Pico at approximately 33°25'57" N, 117°36'57" W with a major curve at approximately 33°28'16" N, 117°40'27" W. The project ranges in elevation from approximately 70 to 225 feet (ft) above mean sea level (amsi). Vegetation within and adjacent to the State right-of-way for the project segment of I-5 is dominated by CSS, saltbush (Atriplex sp.) scrub, and ornamental plantings (e.g., hottentot fig [Carpobrotus edulis], Eucalyptus sp., Pinus sp., Schinus sp.).

# **METHODS**

LSA biologists Ingri Quon and Richard Erickson conducted nine protocol non-breeding season surveys from October 5, 2009 to January 25, 2010. During each survey, the biologist walked slowly through the CSS and adjacent habitats, listening for coastal California gnatcatchers. A taped coastal California gnatcatcher recording was played periodically along the survey route.

Mr. Erickson and Ms. Quon's surveys were conducted pursuant to Federal Fish and Wildlife Permit TE-777965-8 (April 8, 2008-April 7, 2012) and a letter permit from the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) attached to Scientific Collecting Permit SC-000777 covering conditions for research on listed birds (July 23, 2009–April 12, 2012). On September 22, 2009, per permit requirements, a 10-day notification was faxed to Sandra Marquez (United States Fish and Wildlife Service [USFWS]) and Lyann Comrack (CDFG). The survey schedule and conditions are shown in Table A.

Table A: Survey Schedule and Conditions

Date			
2009-2010	Time	Weather	Surveyor
October 5	0715-1130	Partly cloudy, mild, light air	IQ
October 19	0815-1115	Partly cloudy, mild, light air	IQ
November 2	0900-1100	Clear, mild, light air	IQ
November 13	0745-1130	Overcast, cool, calm	RE
November 27	0800-1130	Clear, mild, calm	IQ
December 15	0745-1130	Overcast, cool, calm	RE
December 30	0900-1200	Overcast, cool, light air	IQ
January 12	0745-1100	Overcast, cool, calm	RE
January 25	0800-1115	Clear, chilly-mild, light air	IQ

Surveyor: RE = Richard Erickson; IQ = Ingri Quon

#### RESULTS

Most CSS within the I-5 right-of-way is occupied by coastal California gnatcatchers. Up to seven pair of California gnatcatchers were observed during the surveys (Figures 2A and 2B). Many of the pairs were observed during each survey. On November 13, three pairs of gnatcatchers were observed in CSS along the western slope of I-5 near Camino Capistrano and Doheny Park Road. On the same day, a fourth pair was detected across the freeway approximately 350 ft south of the Stonehill Drive on-ramp to I-5 north. On January 25, up to three more pairs were observed in the high quality CSS along the southwest side of I-5 between Camino de Estrella and the Shorecliff Golf Club at Avenida Vaquero.

The brown-headed cowbird (*Molothrus ater*), which is a brood parasite of California gnatcatchers and other passerines, was not detected on any survey. Animal species detected during the surveys are listed in Appendix B.

If you have any questions or comments, please call (949) 553-0666 or email me at ingri.quon@lsa-assoc.com or Mr. Erickson at richard.erickson@lsa-assoc.com.

Sincerely,

LSA ASSOCIATES, INC.

Ingri Quon

Senior Biologist

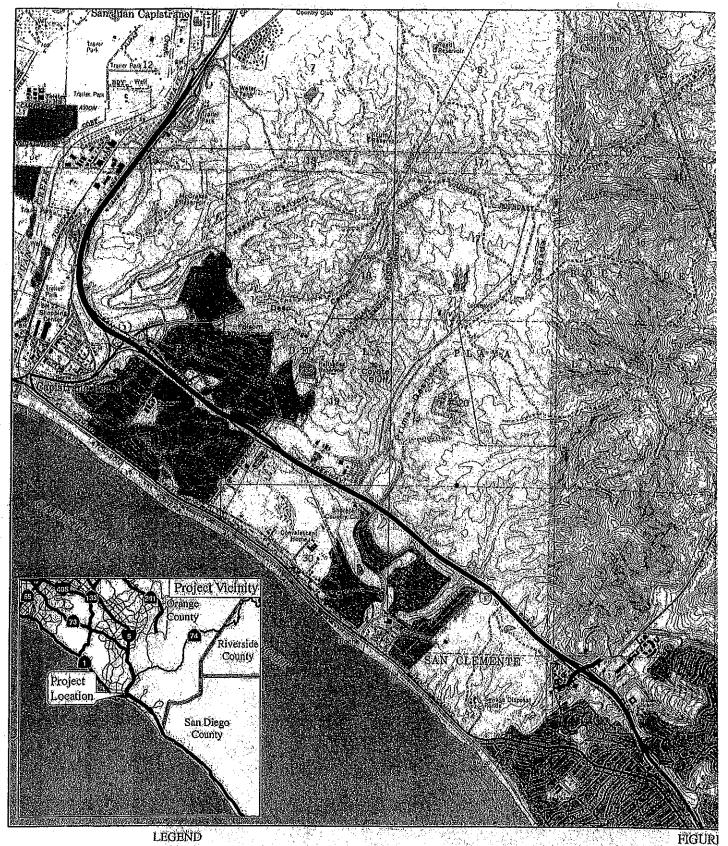
Attachments: Appendix A: Figures 1-2

Appendix B: Animal Species Detected

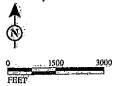
# I CERTIFY THAT THE INFORMATION IN THIS SURVEY REPORT AND ATTACHED EXHIBITS FULLY AND ACCURATELY REPRESENT MY WORK:

SURVEYOR:	PERMIT NUMBER:	DATE:	
Ridough A. Elideur	TE-777965-8	February 3, 2010	
Richard Erickson			
Mys Oion	TE-777965-8	February 3, 2010	
Ingri Onon			

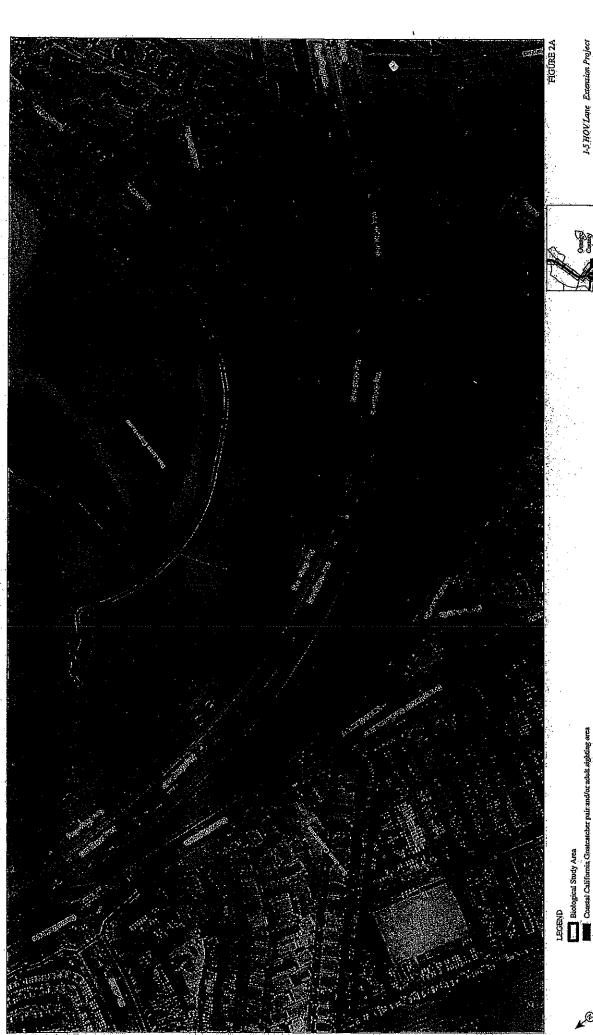
# APPENDIX A FIGURES



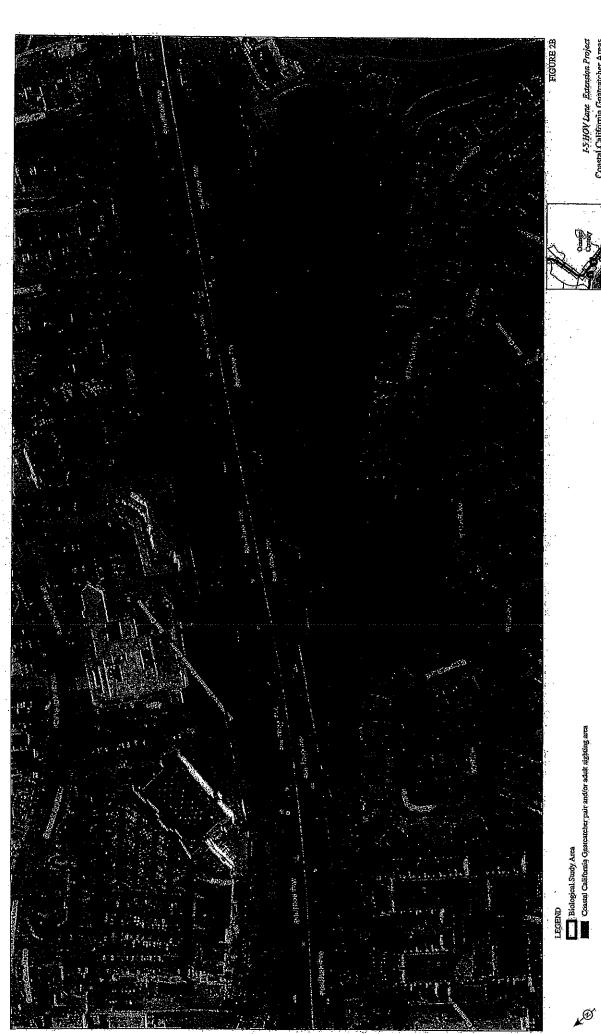
Project Location



I-5 HOV Lane Extension Proj Project Locati 12-ORA-005 PM 3.30/8 12840-0F96 EA# OF96



1-5 HOV Lane Entantion Project
Coastal California Gnateatcher Areas
12-0RA-005 PM 3308.70
12260-0F9600
EA#-0F9600



E5HOV Lane Exension Project Coastal California Gnatesicher Areas 12-ORA-005 PM 3208.70 1240-05960K

# Ptilogonatidae :

Phainopepla nitens

#### Parulidae

Vermivora celata Dendroica coronata Dendroica townsendi Geothlypis trichas

#### Emberizidae

Pipilo maculatus Pipilo crissalis Melospiza melodia Melospiza lincolnii Zonotrichia leucophrys Zonotrichia atricapilla

# Fringillidae

Carpodacus mexicanus Spinus psaltria

#### Passeridae

Passer domesticus

# **MAMMALIA**

#### Sciuridae

Spermophilus beecheyi

# Geomyidae

Thomomys bottae

#### Cricetidae

Neotoma lepida

#### Leporidae

Sylvilagus audubonii

#### Canidae

Canis latrans

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Mephitis mephitis

# Silky-flycatchers

Phainopepla

# Wood Warblers

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#### **Emberizids**

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Coyote

#### Skunks

Striped skunk

Procyonidae

Procyon lotor

Raccoons and Allies

Raccoon

Cervidae

Odocoileus hemionus

Deer, Elk, and Allies
Mule deer

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Birds: American Ornithologists' Union (1998, The A.O.U. Checklist of North American Birds, Seventh Edition, American Ornithologists' Union, Washington D.C.; and supplements; see http://www.aou.org/checklist/north/index.php).

Mammals: Wilson, D.E., and D.M. Reeder, eds. (2005, Mammal Species of the World, 3rd ed., Johns Hopkins University Press, Baltimore, Maryland; see http://vertebrates.si.edu/mammals/msw/).

# United States Department of the Interior

LSA LSA ASSOCIATES, INC. FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Ecological Services
Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office
6010 Hidden Valley Road, Suite 101
Carlsbad, California 92011



OCT 0 1 2009

RECEIVED In Reply Refer To: IRVINE FWS-OR-09B0458-09SL1235

SEP 2 8 2009

Elizabeth Delk LSA Associates, Inc. 20 Executive Park, Suite 200 Irvine, CA 92614

Subject:

Request for a List of Proposed, Threatened, and Endangered Species, and Critical Habitats Occurring in the Vicinity of the I-5 HOV Lane Extension Project, Cites of San Clemente, Dana Point, and San Juan Capistrano, Orange County, California

Dear Ms. Delk:

This letter is in response to your request, received August 31, 2009, for a list of federally endangered, threatened, and proposed species and critical habitats present in Orange County, California. To assist you in evaluating the potential occurrence of federally listed endangered, threatened, proposed, and candidate species and their critical habitat that occur in Orange County, we are providing the enclosed list.

Because we do not have site-specific information for the proposed project, we recommend that you seek assistance from a biologist familiar with the habitat conditions and associated species in and around the project site to assess the actual potential for direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts likely to result from the proposed activity. We also suggest that you contact the California Department of Fish and Game regarding State-listed and sensitive species that may occur within the project area. Please note that State-listed species are protected under the provisions of the California Endangered Species Act.

As a reminder, if a proposed project is authorized, funded, or carried out by a Federal agency and may affect a federally listed species, then section 7 consultation pursuant to the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (Act), as amended, is required. If a proposed project does not involve a Federal agency, but is likely to result in the take of a listed animal species, then the project proponent should apply for an incidental take permit, pursuant to section 10 of the Act.



Should you have any questions regarding the species listed or your responsibilities under the Act, please contact Sally Brown of this office at (760) 431-9440, extension 278.

Sincerely,

Karen A. Goebel

Sally Brown

Assistant Field Supervisor

Enclosure

# Federally Endangered, Threatened, Proposed, and Candidate Species and Critical Habitat that Occur in the Vicinity of the I-5 HOV Lane Extension Project, Orange County, California

September 28, 2009

Common Name	Scientific Name	Federal Status	Critical Habitat
<u>Plants</u>			
thread-leaved brodiaea	Brodiaea filifolia	threatened	none
<u>Invertebrates</u>			
Riverside fairy shrimp	Streptocephalus woottoni	endangered	none
<u>Fish</u>			
tidewater goby	Eucyclogobius newberryi	endangered	none
southern steelhead	Oncorhynchus mykiss	endangered	present
<u>Amphibians</u>			
arroyo toad	Bufo californicus	endangered	none
Bird <u>s</u>			
western snowy plover	Charadrius alexandrinus nivosus	threatened	none
southwestern willow flycatcher	Empidonax traillii extimus	endangered	none
brown pelican	Pelecanus occidentalis	endangered	N/A*
coastal California gnatcatcher	Polioptila californica californica	threatened	present
California least tern	Sternula antillarum browni	endangered	N/A
least Bell's vireo * N/A = Not Applicable	Vireo bellii pusillus	endangered	none